




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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MOTION

Coronavirus, Economic Response

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (3.37 pm): I cannot allow that contribution from the member for Cairns to go unchecked. I spent some time in that community the other day and I know how much that community is hurting because of the pigheadedness and the mixed messages on the borders.

To have the member for Cairns stand up and try to somehow masquerade as a representative for that city in its hour of need and not even mention the borders is an abrogation of responsibility. It is a complete and utter lack of leadership from that member. He spruiks in Spence Street but he whispers in William Street. When I toured that city they said loud and clear that Michael Healy is a pretty nice guy, but he says one thing here and a different thing in Brisbane. They have worked it out. He will stand up in the *Cairns Post* and beat the drum about the great convention centre but then will not say a thing when they fly in workers from Sydney.

The tourists cannot come in to create jobs, but the workers can come in to take jobs and he will not say a thing. I am sorry, but that contribution cannot be allowed to go unchecked because it was a failure of that member to stick up for his community. The people I spoke to are weeks away from losing everything and the member wimps it on the floor of this parliament. He needs to be called out. His day of reckoning is coming.

There is no vision in this motion, there is no budget and now there is no respect for the parliamentary process. For the Premier to begin debating a motion and not even have the decency to have it tabled so that the opposition could actually make a contribution shows a complete and utter lack of respect.

As the member for Glass House said, these grants are welcome. They could have happened earlier, but we welcome them. I suggest that this time there is a process that assesses and delivers grants in a way that ensures that they are awarded based on the quality of the applications, rather than using a first-in first-served system. When the grants were initially put forward, we were told that the process would be open until September. People spent money. They engaged their accountants. Then they were shown the door before they had an opportunity to lodge. I ask: can people be treated with respect? There can be nothing like a private sector revival to make up for the shortfall that we are experiencing, so any grant that helps the private sector is welcome. However, what would help right now is certainty on the borders, the government keeping its word and businesses in hospitality getting back on their feet.